

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

**COUNTRY** Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 3 November 1951

**SUBJECT** The Port of Kardeljevo and Dependent Naval Units

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1. During the Regency, the groundwork was laid in Kordeljevo, which at that time was known as Ploce, to develop this little coastal village on the Narenta River into a large commercial port. The Tito regime did not abandon the plan for the development of this port, and Kordeljevo has since become a very crucial point in Yugoslavia's economic planning and a basis for considerable Yugoslav Communist propaganda. From a military standpoint the position of Kordeljevo is very favorable, because it is sheltered so well by the numerous islands. The current plan calls for the construction of a standard gauge Kordeljevo-Sarajevo railroad on electric traction, after the work on the Jablanica hydro-electric plant has been completed. Currently, Kordeljevo is connected with Sarajevo by means of narrow gauge railroad which runs through Metkovic and Mostar.
2. Kordeljevo is the headquarters of the 14 Naval Zone Command. All units stationed on the islands of Mljet, Korcula, Lastovo and the Peljesac peninsula are under the jurisdiction of the 14 Naval Zone. The zone commander is listed as Lt. Col. Franjo Bavec, and the political commissar is listed as a certain Radilic. Although the staff is currently quartered on the vessel HVAR which is at anchor in this port, large barracks in town have been made ready to house the staff and are slowly being occupied. Some of the barracks, however, are still under construction. The construction of the barracks is in the hands of a government construction enterprise in Split. A workers battalion which is composed of approximately 300 reservists who have been called to maneuvers for a three-month period, are employed in the work.
3. The following units are listed at Kordeljevo:
  - a. 14 Naval Zone Communications Headquarters, commanded by Captain Stefan Torbic.
  - b. One communications company with one platoon of radio-telegraph operators and two platoons of telegraph operators. Communications courses are conducted by this company for men attached to the 14 Naval Zone.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

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c. One transportation company supplied with trucks and other vehicles. The company which has three platoons is mainly intended to service the headquarters.

d. One naval infantry battalion which is commanded by Capt. Kecman. It is quartered in the new barracks and has the following units:

- 1) Infantry company
- 2) Anti-tank company
- 3) Machine gun company
- 4) Mortar company

4. The headquarters command of a coastal artillery battalion is located on the island of Korcula in the area of Lumbarda. The [REDACTED] The Battalion has three batteries, each of which is supplied with four heavy cannons of approximately 20 centimeters caliber. The cannons are mounted on permanent concrete emplacements under which there are shelters. One of these batteries is located on Korcula and has a strength of approximately 40 men. The remaining two batteries are stationed on the island of Mljet near the village of Govedjari.

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[REDACTED] Comment: Your attention is called to [REDACTED] which reports that there are 15 zones in the Adriatic, and to [REDACTED] which report on some of these zones.

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